

Open Space Committee Agenda/Minutes

Meeting of 9/28/2023

In attendance: Mike A, Janet H. Amy S, Mike M Amy S, Doug P

Approval of minutes from 7/27/2023: First Janet H, Second Mike A

Properties

Farmers – At the environmental commission meeting we talked about the posting of farming activity on open space properties (spray of crops). This so citizens know when spraying activities take place and thus avoid the area.

Windy Acres – Owner of Fountain Motel is clearing some of his land. He drove his tractor into a C-1 stream. DEP has been notified. Chief DeRosa met with him and said it was the hunter that uses his property. Hunters on WA for CT have been notified to be on the look out for people trespassing as a result of this activity

ProstakEast – we got roadsign and Kiosk up; I still need to mark the hiking trails better; I have about 8 long steel posts to argument direction posts; and some professional “aluminum reflective arrows” . If someone wants to pick this up be happy to hand off; otherwise November.

Regarding routed signs for Prostak; if you want to do other similar signs I have the paint both the brown and yellow for letters. I have enough paint for at least 2 more sets of signs.

Prostak West –

Hacketts –

Brays – Mario from EC is getting his bee keeper license and is looking to put hives on Brays. Mario to be invited to next OSAC meeting to discuss timing and logistics so an accessible spot can be identified.

No maintenance issues seen.

Cramer's Creek - Cramer Creek DG, no further vandalism seen since the sign was repainted. I am working on DPW request for teepad. I have a resource creating a drawing of what the ask will be. The course has been mowed only when it has been requested. A DPW mowing schedule would be preferred. Trees are gone at end of Disc golf; some of the firewood is still waiting for someone to take.

Cramer Creek 5k; was rerouted for High school track. The section through woods will remain. I'm not sure how we will describe it. Once builder is out; I will remeasure 5k and lay a plan to reset the various trail posts (6x6 plastic) that we have.

AMY DO YOU WANT TO ADD SOMETHING RE THE DIRT PILE.

BBR – Still need signs for double parking issue on Herman Thau Rd. Per Tom S an ordinance needs to be put into place first then signs can be made up. Should be done for the next meeting.

Springside – Appears that some bikers are accessing the trail that comes out to Herman Thau Rd. This portion of the trail is for hiking only. Mike A to look to see if sign restricting biking in this section is still in place.

Eton Ct - I put up the township sign at Eton Ct. still need township sign at Kent ct and along Leigh Street. No hunting signs still need to go up at Eton ct property.

Possible Acquisitions – Amy walked us through the particulars of the Exxon presentation to the Town Council on Wednesday 9/27. Appears they are still pushing for a warehouse. Amy also reached out to County re funds available incase we need to acquire some portion of the property.

Deer hunt update – 7 deer taken to date

Hunterdon County OSC Meeting – Janet updated us on the meeting of Monday, 9/25. Readington and Raritan submitted a request to purchase properties for OS. Raritan was approved. Also \$6MM renovation of aboretum is on hold

Tool inventory completion – This will be removed from future agendas

Other

Signs – See above re Herman Thau Rd double parking issue

Projects that need to be completed by DPW (Tom S to review and determine which are still open)

- 1) Electric fence for bee hive at WA (COMPLETED)
- 2) Fence around water tank in BBR (Shared with Wm. Close)
- 3) Trees at start of Disc Golf course at CC (Shared with Wm. Close)
- 4) Trail around spring house at BH needs maintenance (Shared with Wm. Close)
- 5) Mowing of areas that Les and Jay discussed at CC (COMPLETED)
- 6) Repair the trail that was disturbed at CC (Wm. Close would be contacting engineers for housing site to address)
- 7) Make sure trails at WA are mowed and weed wacked
- 8) Install something to prevent birds from sitting in rafters at WA pavillion
- 9) Signs to close off biking trail at Springside (DPW is on top of this)
- 10) Post Open Space property at Eton Ct, Kent Ct and Hamden Rd
- 11) Place signs at Eton Ct, Hamden Rd and Kent Ct
 1. Signs are at Tom's office

SHOULD WE MEET WITH DPW TO CREATE A SCHEDULE OF MOWINGS AND TRAIL
MAINTENANCE??

Terms expiring at 12/31/23 – Mike A- Would like to stay involved but not as Chair
Les G- Would like to stay involved but not as Chair
Amy S- Represents Council
Doug P- Represents EC
Janet H- Would like to stay involved but not as Chair
Ben H- No response as of yet
Mike M- Term expires 12/24, Would like to stay involved but not
as Chair
Roger S- Term expires 12/24, no decision on being Chair

The EC is working on a “Bamboo” ordinance. Doug will have something drafted for next meeting

Motion was made by Amy S and seconded by Mike M to adjourn the meeting

Next meeting is 10/26/2023 at 6PM